

NOTE

FIRST RECORD OF HOODED WARBLER FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS

BRENT S. STEWART, Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute, 1700 South Shores Road, San Diego, California 92109

The Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) is a rare visitor to the southern California mainland (38 records reported, mostly from the interior), primarily in spring (Garrett and Dunn 1981). To my knowledge, it has never been recorded on any of the Southern California Channel Islands despite several recent surveys of the islands' avifauna (Hunt and Hunt 1974, Jones and Diamond 1976, Diamond and Jones 1980, Hunt et al. 1980) and my own incidental observations while conducting pinniped research at San Miguel and San Nicolas islands since 1978.

On 22 May 1983 I observed a male Hooded Warbler and a male Wilson's Warbler (*W. pusilla*) foraging at the western tip of San Nicolas Island (33°15'N, 119°33'W). They foraged within 100 m of my field quarters, just below the main Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*) rookery, from about 1700 through at least sunset (1900). The two birds foraged within 5 m of each other during this period except occasionally when one or the other flew to a new location; the birds generally reunited within 10 to 15 minutes. At 2030, the Hooded Warbler flew into the field quarters, apparently attracted by the lights. I captured and photographed the bird (Figure 1) before releasing it at 2100. Neither bird was seen again. Wilson's Warblers are common spring visitors

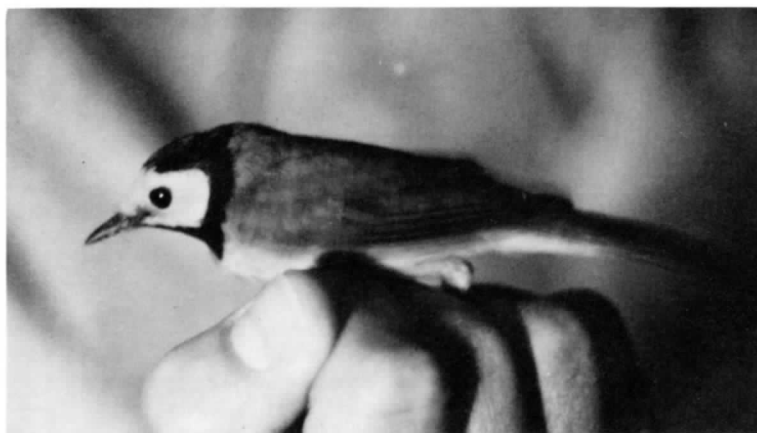


Figure 1. Hooded Warbler, San Nicolas Island, California, 22 May 1983.

Photo by Brent S. Stewart